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GOVERNMENT FREEZES FUNDS OF UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

As U.S. Acts Against Organization Headed by Nazi-  
Ukrainians, Yale Professor Distributes Material  
Praising Group

On July 5 *The Hour* carried a story urging that the funds of the Ukrainian National Association be frozen by the government authorities. We pointed out that the resources of this organization, amounting to \$6,000,000, were largely controlled by an Executive Board notorious for its Nazi connections; and we stated, "The Government of the United States has frozen German funds in this country. But, with Nazi-Ukrainians still in control of large financial resources, ample cash is still available to agents of the Third Reich who are operating in the United States."

The Hour can now report that federal authorities have frozen the funds of the Ukrainian National Association.

The Association, a fraternal benefit society, with headquarters at Jersey City, N.J., has a membership of about 40,000 Ukrainian-Americans, the vast majority of whom are loyal pro-democratic citizens. During the last few years, however, a small pro-Nazi clique maneuvered its way into executive positions in the organization. These fascist schemers are associated with the ODNW (Organization for the Rebirth of the Ukraine) and the Hetman, twin nationalist-terrorist bands operating under the direct supervision of the Third Reich.

In our July 5 article we described some of these officers in the Association as follows:

"Nicholas Maraszko, President of the UNA, is known to be a member of the ODNW. Dmytro Halychyn, the Recording Secretary, is an ODNW leader and is custodian of the secret address in Europe through which Nazi-Ukrainians maintain contact with the Provid (Berlin headquarters). Other officers and members of the executive board are Luke Myshuha, editor of the pro-Nazi Svoboda, who two years ago was the Berlin radio guest of Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels; Eugene Lashovitch, well-known as a liaison officer for the ODNW; Stephen Kuropas, ODNW member and contact man for Captain Sushko, a Nazi agent who represents the Provid; Roman Smuk, a leader

in Midwestern Nazi-Ukrainian circles -- who, incidentally, is also a U.S. Army Captain; Nicholas Davyskyba, go-between of the ODWU and the Tashnags, an Armenian terrorist band; John Koos, professional labor spy and fascist Ukrainian bigwig, who in 1938 cabled Adolf Hitler congratulating him on his settlement of the 'minority problem.'"

It is evident from the above records that the U.S. Government had excellent reason for taking action against the Ukrainian National Association.

### Professor Vernadsky of Yale Lauds UNA

It is something of a coincidence that at a time when federal authorities see fit to freeze the funds of the Ukrainian National Association, Professor George Vernadsky of Yale University has written and is distributing a four-page mimeographed bulletin praising the organization's activities and characterizing it as a "democratic" institution.

Vernadsky issued his bulletin in answer to an article which appeared in The Hour. In our November 1 issue we reported that Yale University Press had published a book, A History of the Ukraine, "praising the pro-German Ukrainian Fifth Column and presenting Nazi racist myths about the Ukrainian people as a whole." The volume was published for the Ukrainian National Association; and a note on the title page acknowledged that the manuscript was prepared for publication "under the direction" of Luke Myshuha, editor of the Ukrainian National Association's official newspaper, Svoboda.

At the request of the Ukrainian National Association, Professor George Vernadsky wrote the preface to the Yale Press edition of A History of the Ukraine.

In his answer to our article, Professor Vernadsky takes us to task for criticizing the Ukrainian National Association. The Yale professor describes the Association as "the oldest Ukrainian fraternal organization in the United States ... a democratic co-operative association"; he condones Svoboda's carrying pro-Nazi, pro-Japanese and anti-Semitic propaganda; and he defends the machinations of the notorious Nazi-Ukrainian Myshuha, whom he quotes at length. As a matter of fact, we are reliably informed that Myshuha assisted Professor Vernadsky in the preparation of his bulletin. (This same Myshuha, as we previously disclosed, has printed in Svoboda detailed instructions on the making of bombs and other explosives, and has published rabidly pro-Axis, anti-democratic propaganda; has spoken over the Nazi radio network in Germany; and has acted as a contact man in the United States for key Nazi agents visiting this country.)

The Hour would like to ask Professor Vernadsky these questions; if the Ukrainian National Association is the "democratic" organization he describes it to be -- why is its executive board dominated by Nazi-Ukrainians? why has its official publication spread pro-Nazi, pro-Japanese and anti-Semitic propaganda? why has the editor of this publication cooperated with the Nazis and played host to Nazi espionage and sabotage agents visiting this country? and above all, why has the Government of the United States frozen the funds of the Association?

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## THE CAREER OF NIKIFOR GRIGORIEFF

Head of Committee for Promotion of Democracy  
Has Incriminating Record

Following our article in the December 13 issue of The Hour exposing the subversive leadership of the so-called Committee For the Promotion of Democracy, we received a number of anxious inquiries for further details about the organization. The Committee was founded with the proclaimed purpose of rallying "American citizens of Eastern European birth or descent" around a program of pro-democratic activity; and a number of people had been beguiled by the seemingly constructive aims of the Committee. The Committee had even managed to scheme its way into the offices of the Legion for American Unity at 103 Park Avenue, headed by Judge Ferdinand Pecora, which is carrying on outstanding work in the field of developing unity among national groups in the United States.

In order that no question may remain about the true character of the Committee for the Promotion of Democracy, The Hour will publish the detailed records of its leading members. In this issue we deal with Nikifor Grigorieff, secretary of the Committee.

## Grigorieff's Political Background and His Associates in Prague

Nikifor Grigorieff is a Ukrainian by birth who for many years has been active in the Ukrainian Socialist Revolutionary Party. During the first World War, key members of this party served as espionage and sabotage agents in Russia in the pay of the German Government. After the war, these traitors maintained their connections with Germany. Since Hitler's rise to power, a number of these Social Revolutionaries have been on the payroll of the Third Reich. For example, Nicholas Zalizniak, former head of the Ukrainian Socialist Revolutionary Party, is today a key Gestapo agent in Vienna; and Alexander Sevriuk, another Party bigwig, is now in Berlin, where he acts as principal adviser to Alfred Rosenberg, in matters pertaining to the Ukraine.

In the early 1920's a group of Ukrainian Social Revolutionaries moved into Czechoslovakia. Among them was Nikifor Grigorieff. He shared the leadership of the Party apparatus in Czechoslovakia with three other men; Nikita Shapoval, Captain Leonid Klimenko and Nikita Mandryga. Shapoval, who died recently, was a notorious anti-Semite; he traveled extensively and worked in intimate collaboration with Nazi-Ukrainian groups throughout the world. Captain Klimenko is today a spy in the service of the Third Reich; he operates from Nazi-Ukrainian headquarters in Berlin; his most recent visit to the United States was completed on December 7, 1940, (see The Hour for December 14, 1940), when he left this country at the request of the authorities. Grigorieff's third associate, Mandryga, is now one of the leading fascist Ukrainians in Canada; he cooperates closely with the Nazi-Ukrainian Vassil Avramenko and is a member of the latter's film company, which has specialized in photographing objects of industrial and military importance.

## Grigorieff's Subversive Tie-ups

As for Nikifor Grigorieff himself, the facts listed below are

indicative of his character and the role he is currently playing.

- 1) For years Grigorieff's closest friend and collaborator was the rabid Jew-baiter Nikita Shapoval. The two men distributed quantities of anti-Semitic propaganda. In Prague, Czechoslovakia, they issued under their names a magazine Suspilstvo ("Community"), which contained this typical passage in issue No. III-IV, 1926:

"As facts have shown, Jews always join the dominating race and, together with it, exploit the race that is oppressed. When the oppressed races awaken, Jewry takes sides with the oppressors ... A great anti-Jewish struggle will take place on the territory of the Ukraine, White Russia, Lithuania and Poland. ... Inasmuch as both Soviet Russia and the Soviet Ukraine are in the hands of the Jews politically, the problem of the overthrow of the Soviet regime will logically translate itself into anti-Jewish action ..."

- 2) In Europe, Grigorieff specialized in spreading Nazi propaganda attacking the United States and Great Britain. Much of this material appeared in Trudova Ukraine ("The Labor Ukraine"), a periodical published in Prague by Grigorieff and Shapoval and described by them as the "Central Organ of the Ukrainian Socialist Revolutionary Party." Issues 8-12 in 1935 carry articles reporting that American capital had sent Mussolini to conquer Ethiopia; that the chief cause of international tension was "the struggle between England and the USA for first place in the world"; that during the next world war the 10,000,000 Negroes in the United States would rise against the government; and that the United States was plotting "to seize China and Australia."
- 3) When Grigorieff came to the United States in 1938, he launched a vigorous campaign to form an anti-Soviet bloc among Ukrainian-Americans and to promote the idea of an "independent Ukraine." This activity, of course, fitted into the Nazi program, which envisioned an "uprising" of Ukrainian Fifth Columnists when the Third Reich ultimately invaded the Soviet Union.

Grigorieff publicly endorsed collaboration with the Hetman, a Nazi-Ukrainian terrorist organization led by the infamous General Paul Skoropadsky, whose offices are in Berlin. Regarding Hetmanites in the United States, who at the time were working with the German-American Bund, Grigorieff stated in an article in the November, 1938, issue of a publication entitled Organizational News of the Defense of the Ukraine: "The Hetmanites are ready to accept democracy of the English type." (Grigorieff's former partner Shapoval constantly intrigued with the ODWU and the Hetman, both of which operate under guidance from Berlin.)

- 4) When a Nazi-Ukrainian espionage ring was rounded up in Cuba in November, 1941, the Havana press stated that Nikifor Grigorieff, "an active agent of the Gestapo," had visited Cuba in 1940 and conferred with leaders of the Fifth Column group. The Cuban papers published pictures of Grigorieff, with captions stating that he had brought instructions to key Nazi-Ukrainians in Havana. One of these Fifth Columnists with whom Grigorieff met was Yurko Fedorko, who declared in a recent letter to a





friend; "Nazi Germany will help us. It will help us because it helps every good cause in its own interests and in ours." When Grigorieff returned to the United States after his trip to Cuba, he wrote an article in which he boasted of his meetings with the Nazi-Ukrainians in Havana.

- 5) Grigorieff contributed articles to Fatherland, a subversive Ukrainian-language newspaper in Detroit. Because of its Nazi propaganda content, this paper has been banned from Canada. The publication was founded by the German espionage agent Captain Leonid Klimenko, one of Grigorieff's co-workers (see above). Klimenko's name and Grigorieff's appear together in Fatherland.
- 6) Among the Nazi-Ukrainians in this country with whom Grigorieff has been cooperating is John Koos of Detroit, Michigan. Koos is a professional labor spy and Hetman leader in the Middle West; in 1938 he cabled Adolf Hitler congratulating him on his settlement of the "minority problem."
- 7) While speaking this year in Newark, N.J., at a meeting of Ukrainian-Americans, Grigorieff requested that the audience rise in memory of Colonel Eugene Konovaletz, late head of the world-wide Nazi-Ukrainian Fifth Column, notorious spy for the Japanese and German Military Intelligence, and an intimate friend of Adolf Hitler.
- 8) In September, 1941, the Committee for the Promotion of Democracy addressed a communication to Secretary of State Cordell Hull describing the purpose of the organization. Attached to the letter to Secretary Hull was a memorandum prepared by the "Section of American Citizens of Eastern European Origin or Descent." The memorandum was signed by "Nikifor Grigorieff, Secretary." In signing his name as a member of this "American Citizens" group, Grigorieff was perpetrating a fraud; he is not a citizen of the United States.

In view of the above facts, revealing a consistent pattern of Nazi intrigue, there can be no doubt of the true character of Nikifor Grigorieff, who now masquerades as head of the so-called Committee for the Promotion of Democracy.

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#### ANNOUNCEMENT

It is with regret we announce that Hendrik Willem van Loon, because of ill health, is unable to continue to serve as an editorial consultant to The Hour. Mr. van Loon was a member of the executive board of the American Council Against Nazi Propaganda, which launched The Hour in April 1939. The editorial board wishes to express its deep appreciation of the very considerable contribution Mr. van Loon has made to the work of The Hour, during the two and one-half years in which he has been associated with it. We wish Mr. van Loon a speedy recovery and hope that he will soon be able to resume his position on the editorial board of The Hour.

With the current issue, Johannes Steel, prominent news-commentator and journalist, joins the editorial board of The Hour. Mr. Steel, whose reputation as a militant anti-Nazi is widely known, is no newcomer to the work of The Hour. On July 30, 1939, he contributed his first article to this publication; and he has consistently served as a close collaborator of The Hour in its efforts to expose the activities of anti-democratic groups and individuals in this country.

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